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Dated: April 15, 2004

Signature: 

(Anthony G. Sitko)

Docket No.: 27392/22890
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Gerd Löhn

Application No.: 10/089,711

Confirmation No.:

Filed: April 1, 2002

Art Unit: 3679

For: ELEMENTS TO BE LINKED BY MEANS
OF A SCREW CONNECTION,
ESPECIALLY ELEMENTS OF A MEDICAL
INSTRUMENT

Examiner: John R. Cottingham

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Dear Sir:

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Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date, OR more than three months after the date of entry of the national stage of a PCT application, AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, whichever occurs first, but before the mailing date of a Final Office Action or Notice of Allowance (37 CFR 1.97(c)). A check in the amount of \$180 for the required fee is enclosed.

A copy of each reference on the PTO/SB/08 is attached.

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In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(a) exists. In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure statement shall not be construed to be an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to therein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

It is submitted that the Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with 37 CFR 1.98 and the Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the listed references.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 13-2855, under Order No. 27392/22890. A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.

Dated: April 15, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By 

Anthony G. Sitko

Registration No.: 36,278

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Chicago, Illinois 60606-6357

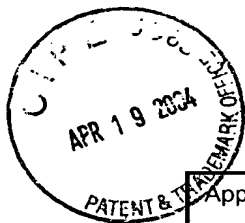
(312) 474-6300

Attorneys for Applicant

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Application No. (if known): 10/089,711

Attorney Docket No.: 27392/22890

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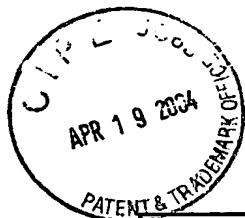
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IDS (Citation) by Applicant



PTO/SB/08a/b (08-03)

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Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	10/089,711-Conf. #2756
				Filing Date	April 1, 2002
				First Named Inventor	Gerd Löhn
				Art Unit	3679
				Examiner Name	John R. Cottingham
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	27392/22890

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		2,066,541	01/05/37	Schenk	
		2,836,448	05/27/58	King	
		4,191,486	03/04/80	Pelton	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		EPO 918 166 A1	05/26/99			
		DE 588 848	12/01/33			
		JP 8-193608	07/30/96			
		JP 9-32840	02/04/97			

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NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
		Search Report for DE 199 47 325.0	

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